REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 9 to render the same more clear and definite. No new matter is believed to have been introduced by way of this amendment.

Applicant has also added new claims 12 and 13 directed to a plasma processing apparatus. Support for the limitations of these claims can be found in the specification at paragraphs 24 and 30 for claim 12, and paragraphs 24 and 26 for claim 13. No new matter is believed to have been introduced by way of this amendment.

Applicant encourages the Examiner to contact the undersigned concerning any matters that may benefit from a telephonic discussion prior to issuing the first official communication.

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of July, 2004.

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